

24. Do you support lowering the drinking age, for beer only, to 18 in Wisconsin?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

25. Do you support "Mental Health Parity" which requires health care plans to treat mental illness the same as other illness in terms of treatment coverage?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

26. Do you believe that all drivers should be required to have collision liability automotive insurance?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

27. How would you describe the cost of tuition at the U.W. Madison?
☐ Too High ☐ Okay ☐ Too low
☐ Too High ☐ Okay ☐ Too low

Job Performance Evaluation

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Undecided
President George Bush	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
U.S. Senator Herb Kohl	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
U.S. Senator Russ Feingold	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
U.S. Congresswoman					
Tammy Baldwin	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Governor Scott McCallum	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Senator Fred Risser	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Rep. Terese Berceau	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
County Executive Kathleen Falk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mayor Sue Bauman	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

28. What do you think is the best method for prescription drug cost relief?
☐ ☐ Cap the amount drug companies can charge (as done in the state of Maine)

☐ ☐ State taxpayer subsidy programs to seniors

☐ ☐ Incentive programs to encourage use of generic drugs

☐ ☐ No change. Don't interfere with the free market economy

29. Which statement most closely reflects your opinion about abortion?
☐ ☐ Abortion should remain legal

☐ ☐ Abortion should be illegal except if the mother's life is in danger

☐ ☐ Abortion should be illegal except for rape, incest or if the mother's life is in danger

☐ ☐ Abortion should be illegal without exception

30. In making budget cuts, which would you favor?
☐ ☐ Cut Corporate tax exemptions
☐ ☐ Cut prison costs
☐ ☐ Cut K-12 education
☐ ☐ Cut U.W. budget
☐ ☐ Cut Medicaid/Badgercare
☐ ☐ Cut highway projects
☐ ☐ Cut shared revenues to local governments
☐ ☐ Other suggestions:_____

Any futher comments: _____

State Blue Books and Highway Maps still available!

I have about 150 hardbound 2001-02 State of Wisconsin Blue Books and Highway Maps still available – free of charge. If you would like one, check the appropriate box.

☐ Wisconsin Blue Book
☐ Wisconsin State Highway Map



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TERESE BERCEAU
P.O.Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

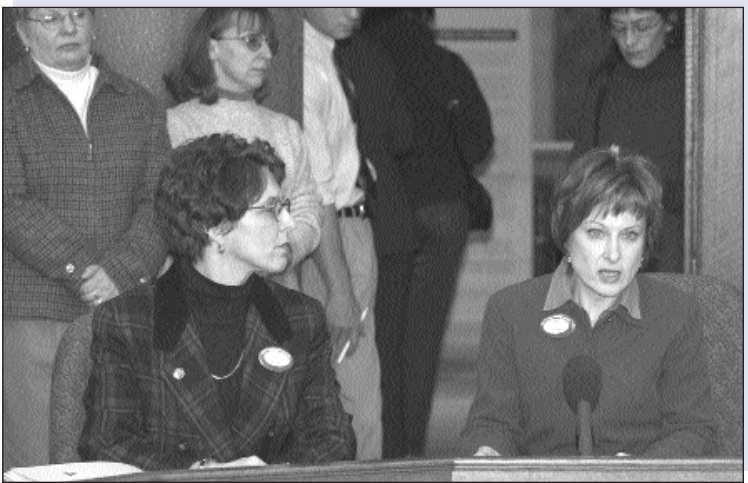
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I HAVE AUTHORED OR CO-SPONSORED OVER 350 ASSEMBLY AND SENATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS.
To see ALL of the legislation I have supported, visit my website at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/asm76/news/>

Bill Alters Child Custody Laws

One of the most important bills I have authored this session is one that alters our child custody law if there is evidence of domestic abuse. The intent of the bill is to better protect children from the effects of domestic violence, which often has life-time consequences. Until the 1999-2001 budget, custody decisions in divorce were based on the "best interests of the child." Despite significant opposition, a provision was added in that budget for a presumption that joint custody is in the best interests of the child. Consequently, under this new law, a judge must order joint legal custody unless the presumption in favor of it is overcome. My bill changes that by stating that if a court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that a parent has engaged in a pattern or serious incident of abuse, joint custody is not presumed. Whereas today the burden is on the abuse victim to overcome the joint custody presumption, this change would put the burden on the abusive party to show why, despite evidence of violence, that person should still have custody. I modeled this bill upon recommendations from the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, and the concept has been adopted as official policy of the American Bar Association. Similar legislation has passed 14 other states. The bill has the support of 67 organizations in the state and our Department of Justice. It passed overwhelmingly in the Family Law Committee, and will be up for a floor vote very soon. For more information on this bill, please call my office at 266-3784.

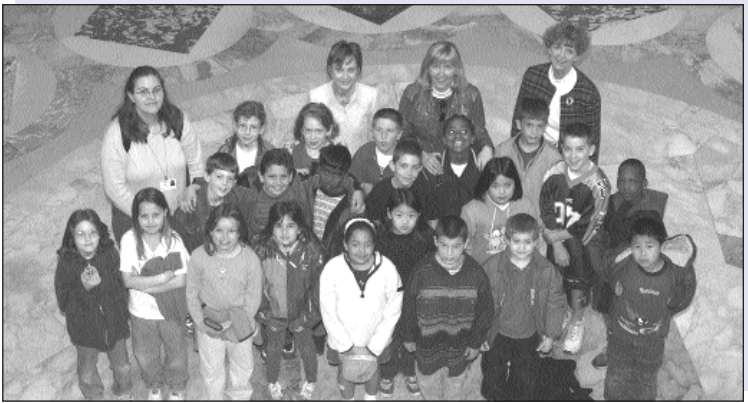


Rep. Berceau giving testimony on a bill to the Family Law Committee.

Citizen input at hearings is very important to the deliberation of committee members. Contact my office if you have an issue that is important to you and you'd like to attend the hearing. I will let you know when it is scheduled.



Rep. Berceau joins three of her predecessors who represented the 76th Assembly District (or parts of) in the past. Left to Right: Becky Young, Rep. Berceau, Mary Lou Munts, and Midge Miller.



Rep. Berceau meets with students, teachers, and parents from the third grade class of Orchard Ridge Elementary.

If your class plans to tour the Capitol, feel free to call me and I'll arrange for a class photo and a short presentation on my duties as a legislator.



**TERESE BERCEAU**
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

SPRING 2002 REPORT

How to Reach Me

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State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708
Phone: 266-3784
Fax: 282-3676
Rep.Berceau@legis.state.wi.us


Dear Neighbor:

This newsletter includes my biennial survey to give you a convenient way to let me know your opinions on issues before the Legislature. I read every reply, and I appreciate the time you have taken in the past to fill out and return your survey.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Assembly will most likely have passed a budget repair bill. However, the Senate's action and the Governor's might not yet be completed. In February I held a number of hearings in the district to get your input on the Governor's proposals. If you were not able to attend one of those hearings, there is still time to comment on issues that concern you. Call my office, write or e-mail, or use the "comments" section of the survey.

Campaign finance reform, school funding, property taxes, rising health care costs and access issues, stem cell research and cloning, and mental health parity, are some of the difficult issues we are grappling with this session. In addition, I am working on bills addressing land use issues, because so much of what is happening in our area to affect our quality of life and our environment is related to our high rate of growth.

Many of the issues I work on have been supported or suggested by my constituents. That is why I value your answers on my surveys, and your calls and letters to my office. And most of all, I value the fact that, in my district, voter turnout is strong. Ultimately, that is what keeps our democracy working. I am proud to have the honor of serving such a concerned and active area.

Sincerely,

Terese Berceau
State Representative







**TERESE BERCEAU**
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
P.O.Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708

Your opinion matters to me!

SeniorCare --

Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Relief Program

Wisconsin senior citizens get a break starting September 1, 2002, when a new program called SeniorCare will help seniors afford their medicines. (Refer to box to see if you are eligible.) SeniorCare members will purchase covered drugs at 20% off the retail price prior to meeting a \$500 deductible. After the deductible is met, there is a co-payment of \$5 for generic and \$15 for brand name drugs. The program will cover \$970 of a \$1,600 bill on average. Additional coverage is available to those whose household income exceeds the maximum limits, but who face catastrophic drug costs. Approximately 250,000 Wisconsinites will be eligible for the program.

I was happy to support this program, but I feel we have a long way to go to make prescription drugs truly affordable for many people. Our country needs to address all of the reasons that drug prices are exorbitant and driving up health care costs such as the patent process, how we subsidize pharmaceutical research, and whether it is necessary to curb the industry's expensive marketing programs that includes gifts and trips for medical professionals, pushing certain drugs in television commercials, and even the type of expensive information sent to politicians to try and thwart regulation of the industry. I am always amazed at the CD's, videos, and four-color manuals sent to me, when in truth I'd be more impressed with a straight-forward, black and white presentation of their issue!



Governor McCallum signs a bill (SB138) by Rep. Berceau and Sen. Fred Risser into law, as Wisconsin Act 11 (on July 10, 2001). The bill corrects a technical error that would have cost the City of Madison over \$1 million in lost TIF funding.

Eligibility for SeniorCare:

- 65 or older
- earn no more than \$20,616 as individuals or \$27,864 as a couple
- not be receiving benefits under the Medical Assistance program
- annual enrollment fee is \$20
- \$500 per year deductible is waived if income is below \$13,744 for individuals or \$18,576 for married couples
- after meeting the deductible, enrollee pays \$5 co-pay for generic drug and \$15 co-pay for brand-name drug
- also available to people with income levels exceeding the limit if they have catastrophic drug costs



Rep. Berceau conferring with colleagues, Reps. Pocan and Kreuser during an Assembly session.

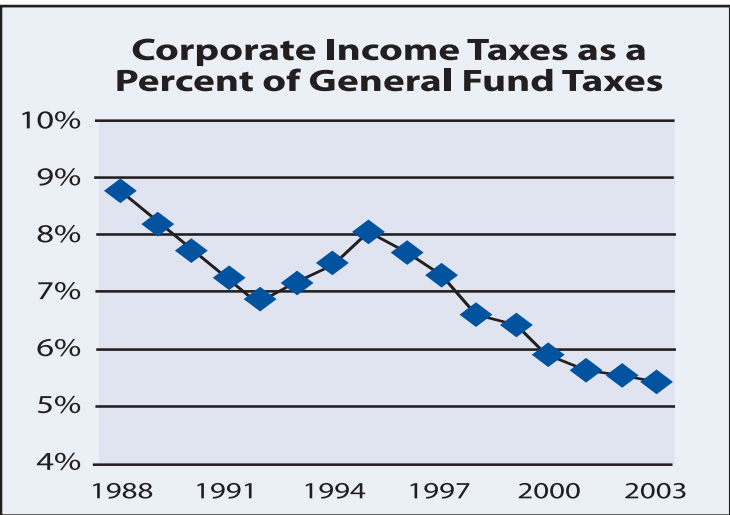
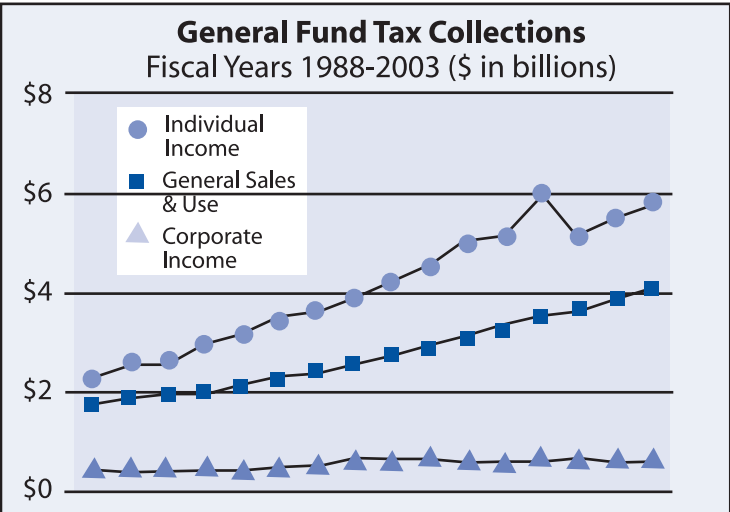
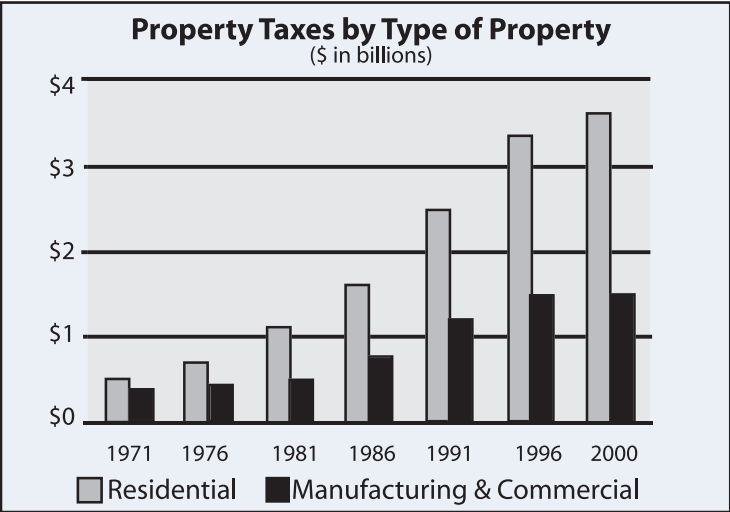
Protecting Stem Cell Research

I have worked again this session on defeating an onslaught of bills aimed at stopping the U.W.'s embryonic stem cell research program. I have attended a number of seminars by leading U.W. scientists where I have learned that limiting stem cell research to adult stem cells will inhibit advancements in developing treatments for diseases like Parkinson's, Lou Gehrig's Disease and juvenile diabetes. As you know Wisconsin is a world leader in stem cell research, and I am proud to be working to protect that research capability here.

REP. BERCEAU'S COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS		
Family Law (Rep. Berceau is Ranking Democrat)	Urban and Local Affairs	
Colleges and Universities	Joint Committee on Law Revision	
State Historical Society of Wisconsin Board of Curators	Legislative State Supported Program Study and Advisory Commission	

Our Present Budget Crisis

Why is it that we are now hearing news from our local governments of possible substantial cuts to county and municipal services, at the same time that we feel we are paying more than our fair share of taxes? The answer is not too



difficult to find. Over the past ten years, the state legislature has dramatically increased the amount of property and sales tax exemptions it has given to corporations in the state of Wisconsin. In 1996, the corporate exemptions totaled \$1.1 billion -- equal to this year's budget deficit alone. Since then, that number has grown dramatically.

In 1968, the portion of total general fund revenue that came from corporate income taxes was 12.1%, 8.8% in 1988, but just 5.9% in 2000. It is expected to fall to just 5.4% by 2003. From 1971 to 2000 the portion of total property taxes that were paid on manufacturing and commercial property declined from 37% to 27%, while the residential share increased from 50.6% to 66.2%. Simply put, yours is going up, while theirs is going down.

Since 1988, corporate income tax revenue has increased just 22% compared to 120% and 105% for individual income taxes and sales and use taxes, respectively.

Moreover, the corporate exemptions continue to increase. The latest budget includes several brand new corporate tax breaks: \$45 million in business tax credits for nine new "technology development zones," a \$2.5 million per year tax break for Midwest Express and Air Wisconsin, a property tax exemption for fax machines and cash registers, effective 2003 (the cost of which has not been estimated).

These are in addition to a recent \$2.9 billion corporate exemption for computers and related equipment (1997), a \$165 million exemption for digital broadcasting equipment (1999), a \$45 million exemption for ATM machines (1999), a \$9.8 million exemption on motion picture theater equipment (2001), and a \$3.3 million exemption for digital cable equipment (2001).

Many people believe these corporate exemptions are needed because they will stimulate our flagging economy. However, the reality is that since 1987, over 112 Wisconsin companies have received a total of \$35 million in incentives from the state without creating a single new job, according to a 1999 study by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

The Democrat's response to Governor McCallum's budget repair bill will propose adjusting this tax inequity, and will seek to roll back some of the corporate exemptions -- many of which were given in exchange for the creation of the shared revenue system. To eliminate our shared revenue system, as Governor McCallum proposes, without eliminating the corporate tax exemptions that were given in exchange for it, is nothing short of a broken promise to the taxpayers of Wisconsin

While Governor McCallum talks about us "tightening our belts," he knows that we could have averted much of the budget crisis well before now. The citizens of Wisconsin don't need to "tighten our belts" as much as we need to re-adjust an unequal tax burden that has the average taxpayer bearing the brunt of a lopsided system.

I sincerely value your opinions and comments on issues regarding state policy. If I am to represent you in the best way possible in state government, I need to know how you feel about certain issues. Please take a few moments to fill out this survey, refold it with the address visible, tape the bottom, and attach a stamp. Your name and address are optional, but will help me keep in touch with you in the future. If more than one person in your household would like to fill out the survey, please use the second rows of boxes after each question. Over 1300 people responded to my last survey, and I personally read each and every reply. **Thank you for your help!**

1. Should first time non-violent drug offenders be sent to a treatment facility instead of prison?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

2. Currently a Wisconsin driver is considered legally intoxicated if he/her blood alcohol content is .10 or greater. Should the level be reduced to .08?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

3. Do you support allowing Wisconsin citizens to carry concealed weapons?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

4. Do you think embryonic stem cell research should continue at the U.W.?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

5. Do you support creating a domestic partnership registry that gives domestic partners the same benefits, rights and responsibilities as married couples?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

6. Should voters be required to show their driver's license or a photo ID card in order to vote?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

7. Should election day be changed to a weekend day?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

8. Should election day be made an official holiday?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

9. Do you support a ban on drilling for oil in the Great Lakes?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

10. Do you support an increase in the minimum wage?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

11. Governor McCallum signed a new state requirement that the first day of public school classes must be on or after September 1. Do you support this law?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

12. To promote recycling and discourage waste from other states, the Legislature approved a \$3 -a-ton fee on garbage haulers dumping non-recycled garbage in Wisconsin landfills. Business interests have opposed this linkage. Do you support this fee being used to pay for local recycling programs?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

13. Our family leave law allows people to take time off of work for family and medical reasons. Would you support expanding this law to give working parents up to 16 hours a year of unpaid leave to attend their children's school conferences and activities?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

14. Do you support providing flexibility under the revenue cap for public schools to deal with rising and unexpected costs?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

15. Do you support state funding for four-year-old kindergarten?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

16. As a means of getting special interest money out of campaigns, would you support 100 % public financing of campaigns?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

17. Do you believe workers should be paid what they are owed before banks or other creditors when businesses file bankruptcy?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

18. Wisconsin ranks 46th in the nation for pay equity for women. Should we require equal pay for equal work, like Minnesota?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

19. Do you support campaign finance reform that requires full disclosure of who is paying for independent political ads, such as on radio, TV, political flyers, etc.?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

20. Do you support campaign finance reform that would require stricter spending limits?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

21. Do you support a ban on soft money in campaigns, i.e., money spent by third parties (state political parties, corporations, unions) for a candidate?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

22. Do you support continuation of the Public Benefits Program that invests in energy conservation, and provides aid to low-income ratepayers to heat their homes?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided

23. Wisconsin has 3,017 units of local government. Do you think reducing and/or consolidating these units of government in largely urban areas (for instance, to increase efficiency and reduce costs of services like police, fire) is an appealing concept?
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Undecided